

AMERICAN NURSES ON WAY TO WAR HAVE EXCITING EXPERIENCES ON BURNING SHIP



American nurses aboard La Touraine, photographed just before leaving New York.

These American nurses on their way to the war zone in France got a very good taste of danger while yet on the Atlantic. The La Touraine, the French liner on which they sailed, was taken afire at sea, and for a time it was feared the ship would be lost. She was saved by the wireless, however, and towed into port with all her passengers unhurt. Mrs. William J. Fitzgerald of New York donated \$100,000 to equip these nurses and five doctors for field service.

IMMIGRANTS TAUGHT HOW TO PROGRESS IN NORTH MICHIGAN

Houghton, Mich.—The Otter lake district, 16 miles south of Houghton, has been likened to a little Finland, for its population of Finnish farmers is represented as living under conditions quite similar to those in old Finland itself. The country lies somewhat back from the copper mine locations and has been as yet not well developed, but, properly directed, these Finnish farmers are regarded as just the people to make the wilderness blossom. They are a sturdy folk and by old associations an agricultural, and especially a stock raising folk, but they have needed educational facilities, and this the board of education of Portage township, in which they live, is seeking to furnish.

In a timbered area of 40 acres belonging to the school district the township has erected a school possessed of the equipment usually looked for in a city school only—electric light, gas, water under pressure, and steam heat, and what many rural schools in the United States are still without, facilities indoors and out for the study of farming, gardening, and household economics. There is a well equipped laboratory and kitchen indoors and cleared land outside for summer crops, for work of some sort at the school lasts throughout the year. There is no creamery nearby, so the school buys milk of the farmers; from it butter is made at the school and sold in town. A cream separator and tester are part of the equipment, as are also a flock of high grade fowl and some pigs.

The boys used their practical training in carpenter work to erect the buildings for these animals. An oil engine runs the machinery. Parents' meetings are held regularly in the school assembly room, where subjects of local improvement are discussed by them and by experts brought there, the language used being Finnish as well as English. The older people have been so isolated for the last quarter of a century here in one of the most populous counties of Michigan, that many of them cannot yet speak the English language.

Under the lead of the school a farmers club has been organized among those young men who are too old to attend the school, and social entertainments are being provided at the school for the boys and girls, in order that they may enjoy these things under wholesome conditions. Nothing less than the regeneration of a backward community, getting the immigrant back on to the land and keeping him there as an up-to-date farmer, is the aim of Supt. J. A. Doele and his board of education. Eighteen thousand dollars have already been expended on this school and \$42,000 in addition on a new road connecting the region with its market town at Houghton. It is believed that the Otter lake agricultural school is one of the very few, if not the only, such schools conducted wholly for pupils of primary grade.

SEEK WAY TO USE WASTE POTATOES

Farmers' Clubs Will Ask for Help From Legislature.

Over 1,000 Carloads of 1914 Crop Likely to Go to Waste.

Lansing, Mich.—The surplus of potatoes in Michigan from the 1914 crop is said to be so large that James N. McBride, president of the State Association of Farmers' Clubs, estimates upwards of 1,000 carloads will go to waste unless some way is devised to find a market for the surplus.

A Busy Boy.

The diminutive office boy had worked hard on a "salary" of three dollars a week. He was a subdued little chap, faithful and quiet. Finally, however, he plucked up courage enough to ask for an increase. A writer in the Kansas City Star tells the tale.

"How much more would you like?" inquired his employer.

"Well," answered the lad, "I don't think that two dollars more a week would be too much."

"You are a rather small boy to be earning five dollars a week."

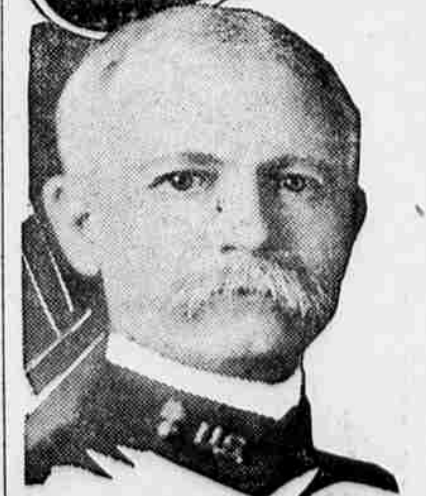
"I suppose I am," he replied. "I know I'm small for my age, but to tell the truth, since I've worked here I've been so busy I haven't had time to grow."

He got the "raise."

Blood Temperature of Athletes.

Professor Flack of the London College Hospital, records some curious observations on the blood temperature of runners. The normal blood temperature in man is about 98.11 degrees Fahrenheit. A young man, after a run of 200 yards, showed a temperature of 100.76 degrees; another a temperature of 100.94 degrees; a third a temperature of 102.2 degrees after a run of half a mile. A mile run produced an internal temperature of 102.8 degrees with one athlete and 103.6 degrees with another. After a three-mile run one young man had a temperature of 105 degrees. But this runner's normal blood temperature was 101 degrees, although he was in perfect health.

OFFICIALS DERIDE GATHMANN'S ATTACKS



Louis Gathmann (top) and General Crozier.

The charges of Louis Gathmann, inventor of the high explosive shell and fuse which bears his name, that Gen. Crozier, army chief of ordnance, Rear Admiral Joseph Strauss, chief of the bureau of ordnance of the navy, and other high officials of the army and navy are in a conspiracy with the armor trust to defraud the government has caused a sensation in Washington. The accused men laugh at the charges, which they brand as false.

GRANDDAUGHTER OF ALABAMA SENATOR



Miss Marian Bankhead.

Miss Marian Bankhead, queen of the cotton ball, with which Washington recently closed its social season, is the granddaughter of U. S. Senator Bankhead of Alabama and is known as one of the most beautiful girls in the national capital. She is a student at the exclusive Fairmont Seminary in Washington.

WATERPROOFING MATCHES.

Simple Method That May Be of Use to Campers.

Perhaps some of your readers would be interested to know that I have found a simple, inexpensive way to waterproof matches.

Into some melted paraffin (care being taken that it was as cool as possible) I dipped a few ordinary parlor matches. After withdrawing them and allowing them to cool it was found that they scratched almost as easily as before being coated with the wax. Several were held under water for six or seven hours and all of them lighted as easily as before immersion. When the match is scratched the paraffine is first rubbed off and the match lights in the usual way.

Matches treated as above would be very useful on camping or canoeing trips, as they do not absorb moisture. Since more rubbing is required to light them than the ordinary match, it would be practically impossible to set them on fire by accidental dropping.—Scientific American.

French "Tommies" and Their Bread.

The little loaves of bread supplied to the French soldier have from time immemorial been known by the name of "boules de son" (literally "bran balls"). Their origin dates back to the First Republic. In the Middle Ages the French "Tommy Atkins" received no rations, and had to depend on what he could get from the enemy. At a later date a commissariat department was created, and the soldier was allowed two loaves, of twelve ounces, per diem. In 1790 the troops received free rations of bread without any deduction from their pay. This bread contained a little flour, but bran predominated—hence the name, "bran balls." In 1870 it was decided to supply bread made of flour only, but the loaves continued to retain their old name. Now the "boule de son" is about to disappear absolutely, and the "braves soldats" will henceforth have bread lighter and more nourishing than hitherto.

Queer Side Line.

In both India and China there are thousands of people who manufacture India ink as a side line to their regular business, working at it in the winter, at night, and on days when they are not otherwise employed. It is made by burning some kind of oil in a lamp with a very long chimney,

usually made in joints which can be taken apart for greater convenience in cleaning out the soot, which makes the ink. Almost any kind of vegetable oil will answer, and in districts where petroleum is found even coal oil is used in making the cheaper grades. The best kind is made from sesame oil.

Sky Signs.

Whether clear or cloudy, a rosy sunset presages fine weather. A sickly looking, greenish hue, wind and rain. A dark or Indian red, rain. A red sky in the morning, bad weather or much wind; perhaps rain. A gray sky in the morning, fine weather. A high dawn, wind; a low dawn, fair weather. Remarkable clearness of atmosphere near the horizon, distant objects, such as hills, unusually visible or raised by refraction, and what is called a good "hearing day," may be mentioned among signs of wet, if not wind.

Don't Snub Children.

Children love to be treated with courtesy and respect. They resent having their opinions and sentiments snubbed, and parents might learn a good deal from them and about them if they would encourage them to talk more freely of all they think and feel. We are hardened by the gathering years, and we have lost our keenest sense of what is the very truest and the very best. The contact of a child's mind with its pure vision is like a message straight from God.

To Break Up Tipping in Iowa.

Des Moines, Iowa.—The Committee on rules in the lower house has made a rule prohibiting tipping employees, including committee clerks.

Electricity to Purify Air.

When the transformation of cities by electric power and light is completed, we may expect the air to be practically as pure as that of the country. It is estimated that the carbonic acid exhaled yearly by the people of a city of 2,000,000 is about 450,000 tons, but that this is less than 3 per cent of that from fuel combustion.

Filipino's Snake-Like Hiss.

An American army officer, returned from the Philippines, says that the Filipino invariably emits a snake-like hiss before he strikes. This seems to be just as instinctive with him as it is with a snake. There is a sharp, indrawn breath that comes as a warning, and gives a man a second's time to drop flat, or to throw up an arm if the antagonist is within striking distance with a knife.

Items of Interest.

An extraordinary fungoid growth in the playgrounds of Stanshaw council school, Portsmouth, England, forced its way through three inches of concrete and two inches of asphalt. The fungus grew to a height of nine inches, and the whole mass was thirty inches in circumference.

If all the bicycles in the world were melted into one, some patient person has figured that it would be three and one-half miles long and rather more than two and one-half miles high.

Out of every three persons struck by lightning two recover.

To the average hobo there's a lot of difference between free soap and free soup.

ACKNOWLEDGE IT

You Must Bow to the Inevitable—Scores of Endorsements Prove It.

After reading the public statement of this fellow-sufferer given below, you must come to this conclusion: A heavy ache in my back. The kidney remedy which proved so beneficial years ago with the kidneys can naturally be expected to perform the same work in similar cases. Read this: Mrs. J. Provonska, Main St., Oak Harbor, Ohio, says: "I have tried Doan's Kidney Pills on two occasions, and in each instance, have had such great benefit that I feel justified in recommending them. Kidney complaint bothered me for years. I suffered almost constantly from a dull, secretions were unnatural and showed my kidneys were at fault. One of the family had been helped by Doan's Kidney Pills and I began taking them. They rid me of backache and kidney trouble. I take pleasure in again recommending Doan's Kidney Pills and confirming my former endorsement." Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Provonska had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv.

The Largest Locomotive.

The largest locomotive ever constructed was on exhibition at St. Louis. It was built by the American Locomotive company at Schenectady, New York, for the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. The engine is to be used for hauling heavy freight trains up the grades on this company's lines, thus removing the necessity for using extra engines in the mountainous districts.

This locomotive weighs 149½ tons, and is a type not previously built in this country. There are two pairs of cylinders, instead of the customary one pair, one high pressure and the other low. Each of the four rods is attached to three driving wheels, making six on a side. In case of a breakdown in one set of cylinders or driving wheels, the other set can be used alone, and the engine is not helpless. With its boiler pressure of 235 pounds to the square inch, and its great weight, the hauling power of this engine is truly wonderful.—Colliers.

Board of Health's Enterprise.

San Francisco's "bug wagon," the board of health's latest enterprise aiming toward the extinction of all forms of germs and dangerous bacilli, has had a practical test. The various varieties of germs were placed on cards and buried in the center of pillows and mattresses, which were placed in an oven of sterilizing box. Steam to the amount of 30 pounds' pressure was turned in, and after twenty minutes it was withdrawn and a formation of chemical gases was allowed to enter the vacuum. Whether the germs met instant death cannot be determined until after a post-mortem, which is now in progress at the city laboratory. The sterilizer, the first of its kind to be built, is self-propelling and has a speed of about five miles per hour. The machine resembles a steam road grader somewhat in appearance and weighs nearly four tons.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Knew His Lordship.

"Anyone called, Perkins?" "Yes, my lord; man with a bill. Used awful language! And abusive! Why, if he'd been your lordship himself he couldn't have been more so!"—Ally Sloper's Half-Holiday.

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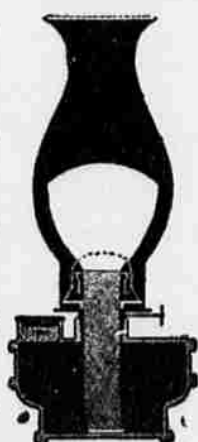
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